SmartClass Essay Competition

SmartClass Essay Grading Rubric.

Marks

8 to 10: earned by work demonstrating excellent quality and mastery in the corresponding category; near perfection

5 to 7: earned by work demonstrating a skilled use, implementation, or demonstration of the corresponding category, but with notable flaws

3 to 5: earned by work demonstrating a fair understanding or a decent attempt in the corresponding category; many major flaws but passable

1 to 3: earned by work demonstrating little to no mastery in the corresponding category; ridden with errors and flaws

0: there is no evidence of the corresponding category in the essay

Marks in each category are not limited to the questions posed. Marks are in 0.5 intervals.

Category	Mark
Title, Format, Grammar and Spelling: Is the essay mechanically sound? Is there a relevant, appropriate title for the essay at hand? Are there mechanical mistakes? Is the format proper?	**/10**
Introduction, Conclusion: Is the introduction engaging or captivating? Does it provide a good lead into the essay? Does it skilfully introduce the background/context? Is the conclusion abrupt and does it leave holes in the essay's plot? Does it wrap up the essay well and provide a sense of completion? Is it captivating or powerful?	**/10**
Storytelling: Is the essay focused or does it detract from the theme(s) (e.g., irrelevance, redundancy, extraneous content, going on for too long, etc.) in such a way that is confusing or hard to understand for the reader? Does the story move the reader? Are the ideas easily discernible and the plot easily understood? Are there appeals to the senses? Is the writer an engaging,	**/10**

interesting storyteller? Is the story memorable? Can the reader see the world of the story?	
Content, Plot: Is there a coherent plot? Are the setting, characters, and plot fully fleshed out, vibrant, and connected? Does every character, plot point, idea, and detail serve a purpose? Does the plot exhibit some complexity beyond a simple, predictable storyline while remaining unforced? Is it thought-provoking, interesting, inspiring, engaging, or artistic?	**/10**
Organization, Structure, Flow: Is the essay easy to follow? Does every sentence and paragraph flow logically from one to the next? Is there structure? Are the paragraphs and the sentences in each paragraph organized? Are transitions used?	**/10**
Craft, Style, Tone: Does the essay demonstrate an adept use of language? Is the **s**yntax skillfully chosen? Is the language concise and easy to understand? Are the sentences complex or varied? Is the writer using the best tools for the job? Is the **t**one and style appropriate for the story being told or the ideas being conveyed? Does the writing, through skilful manipulation of style, tone, diction, and syntax, appeal to the reader (e.g., through pathos)?	**/10**
Thoughtfulness, Thinking Outside the Box, Creativity: Overall, is this essay distinguished? Is there evidence of thought put into the essay? Is the essay and its plot and ideas creative and unique? Is the essay ordinary and predictable? Does the writer think outside the box?	**/10**
Total	**/70**